

No. 730,534.

PATENTED JUNE 9, 1903.

G. E. HAWES.
GARMENT CLASP.

APPLICATION FILED JAN. 17, 1903.

NO MODEL.

Fig. 1.

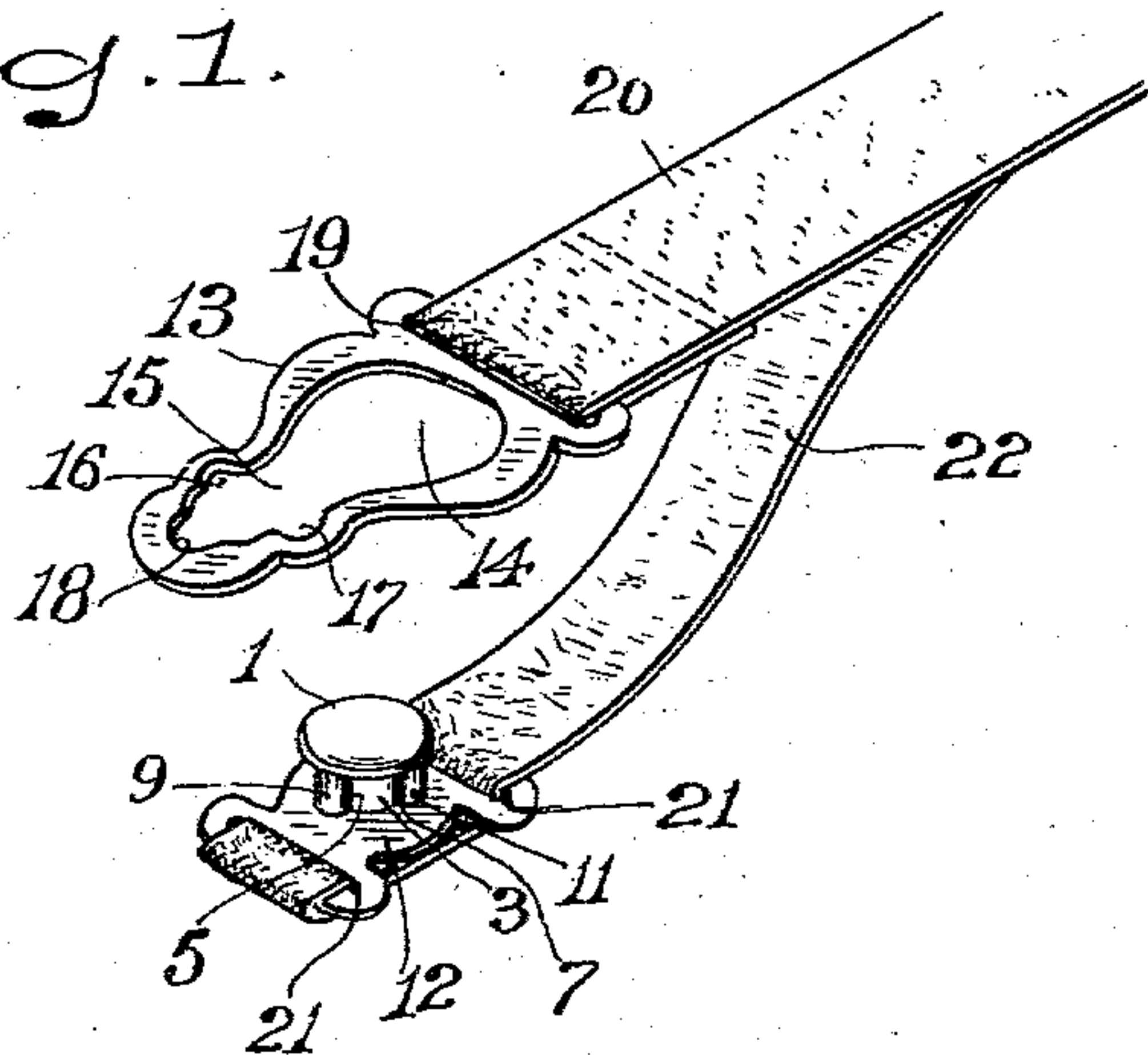


Fig. 2.

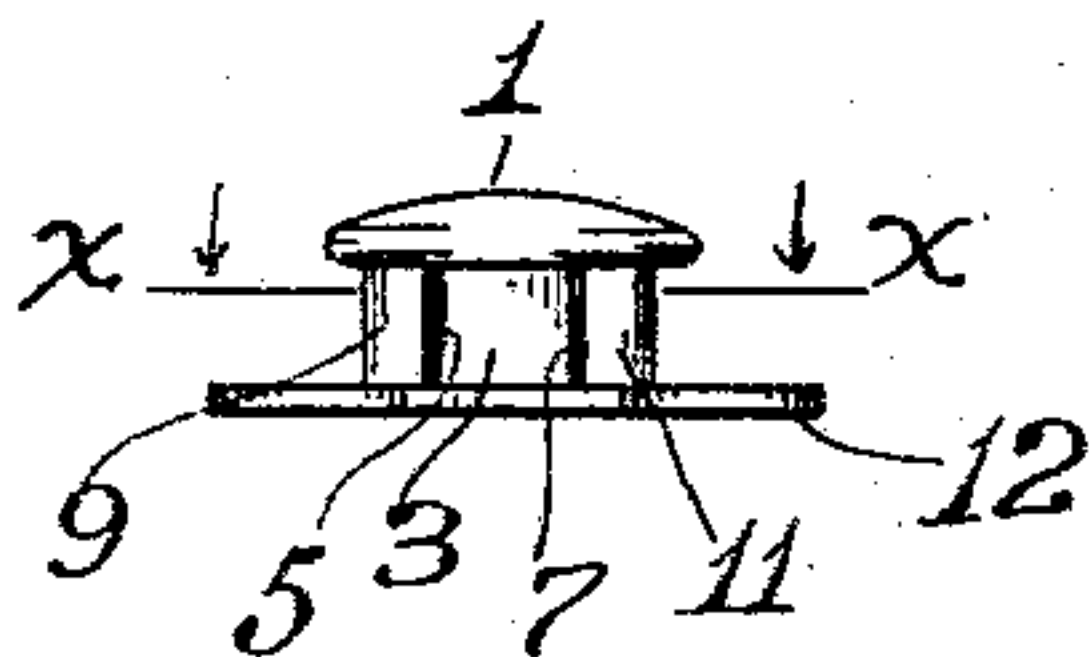


Fig. 4.

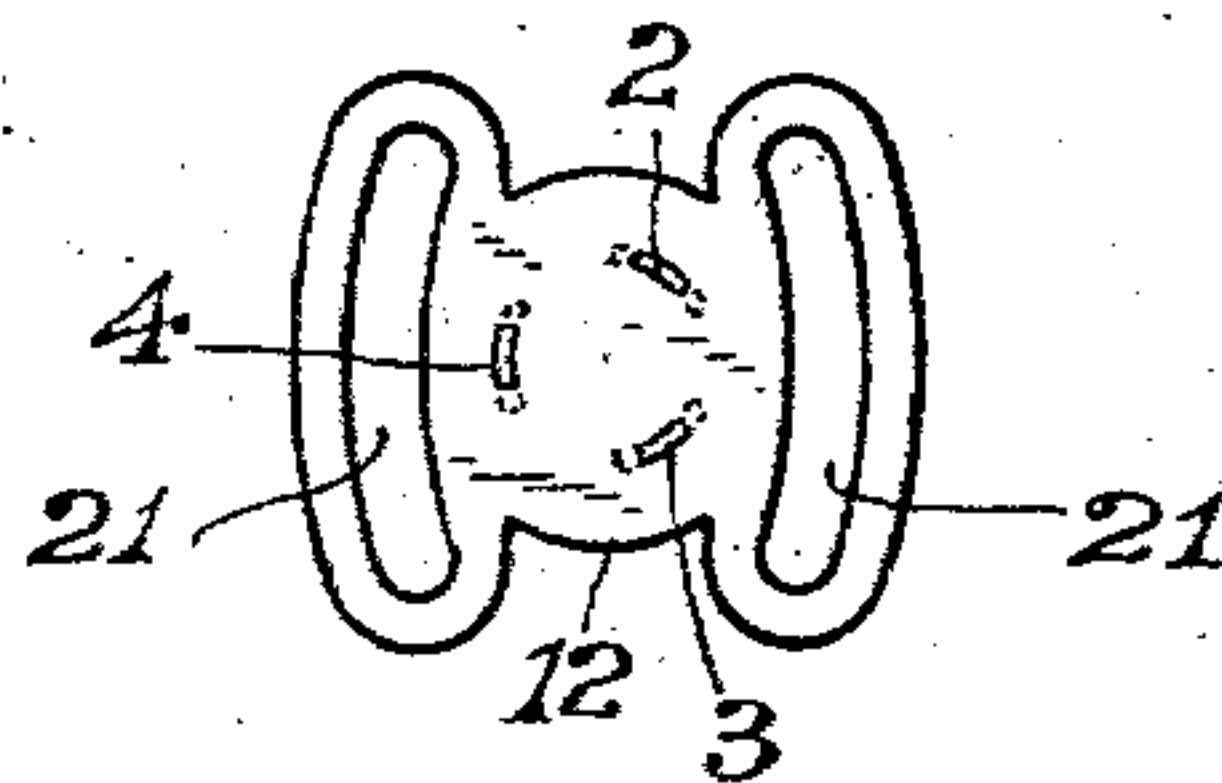


Fig. 3.

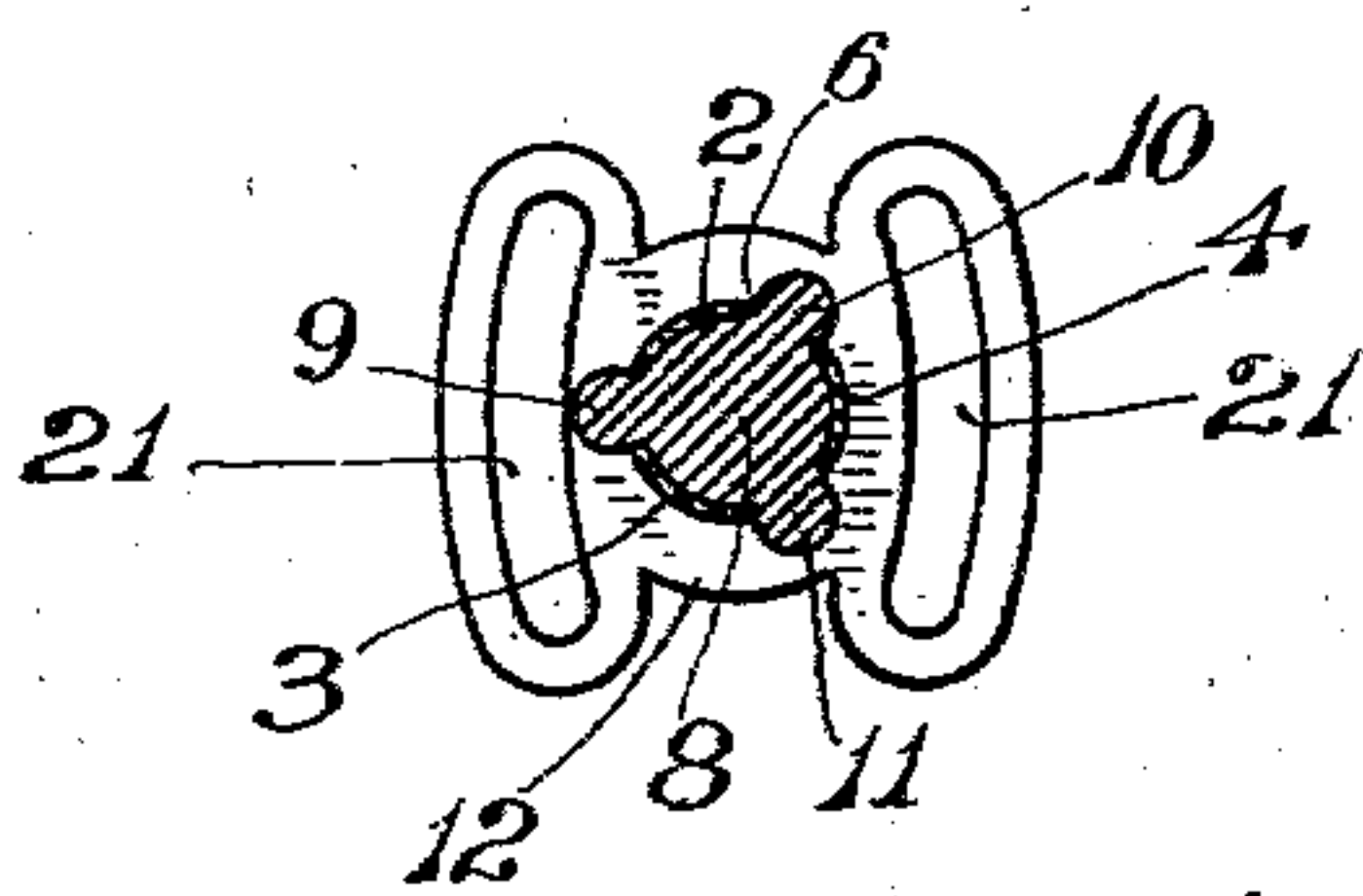


Fig. 5.

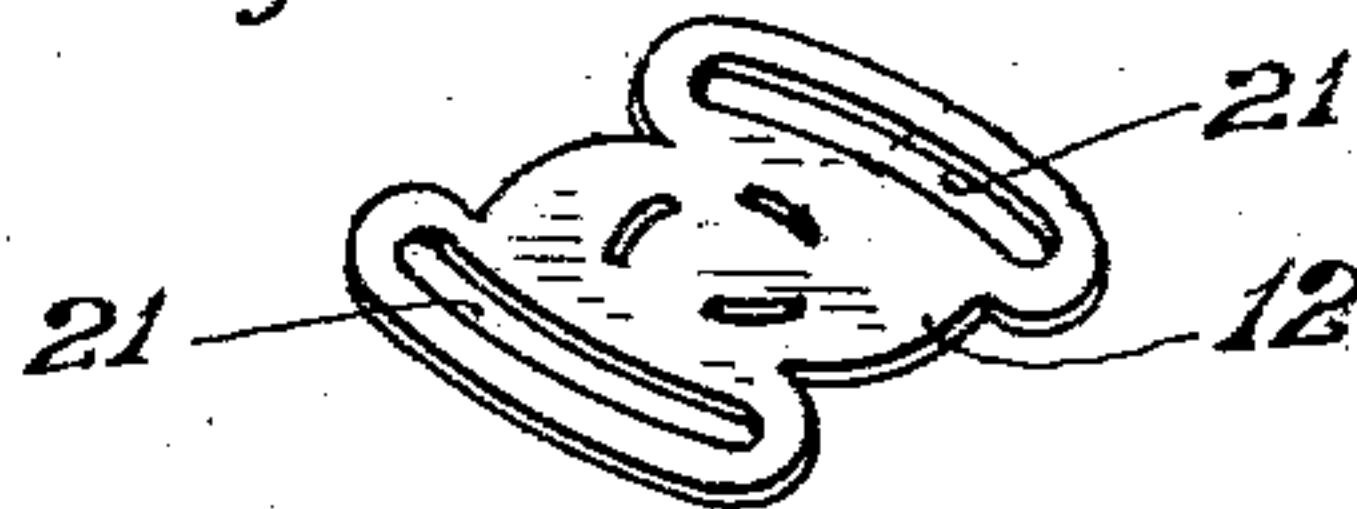
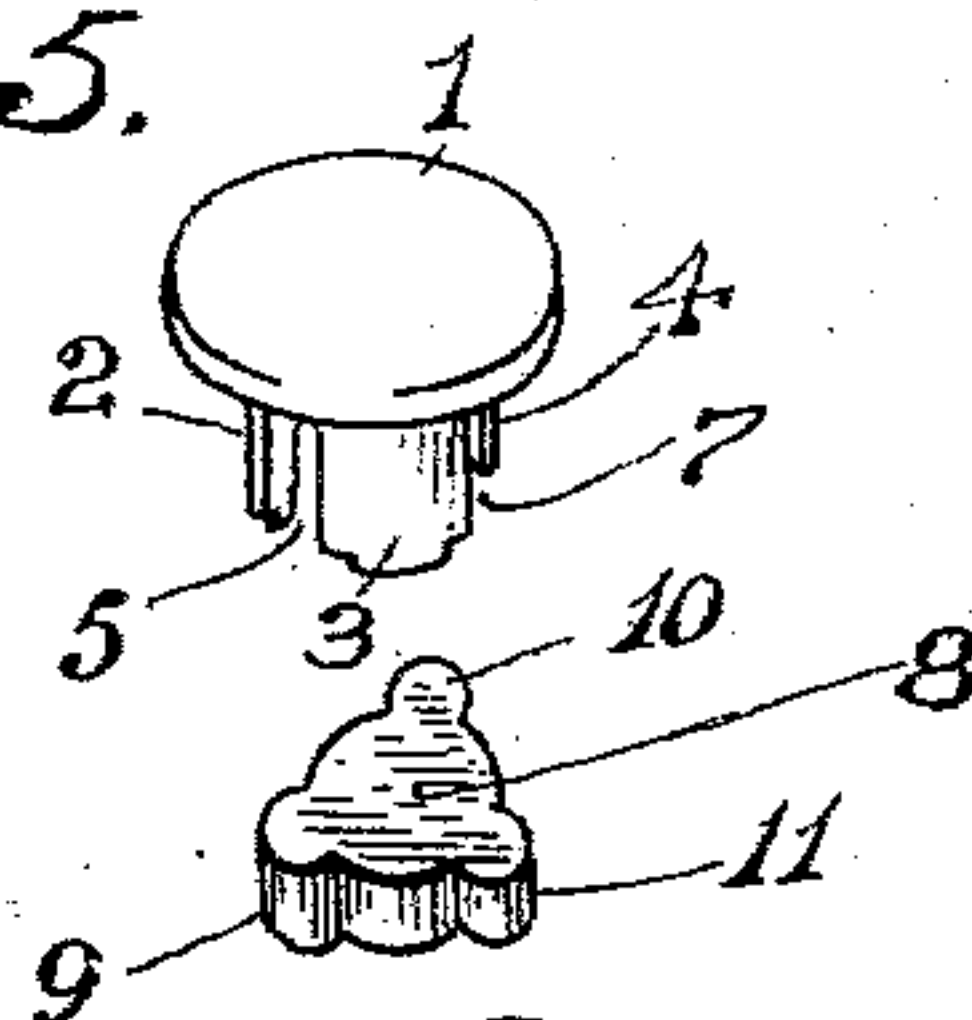
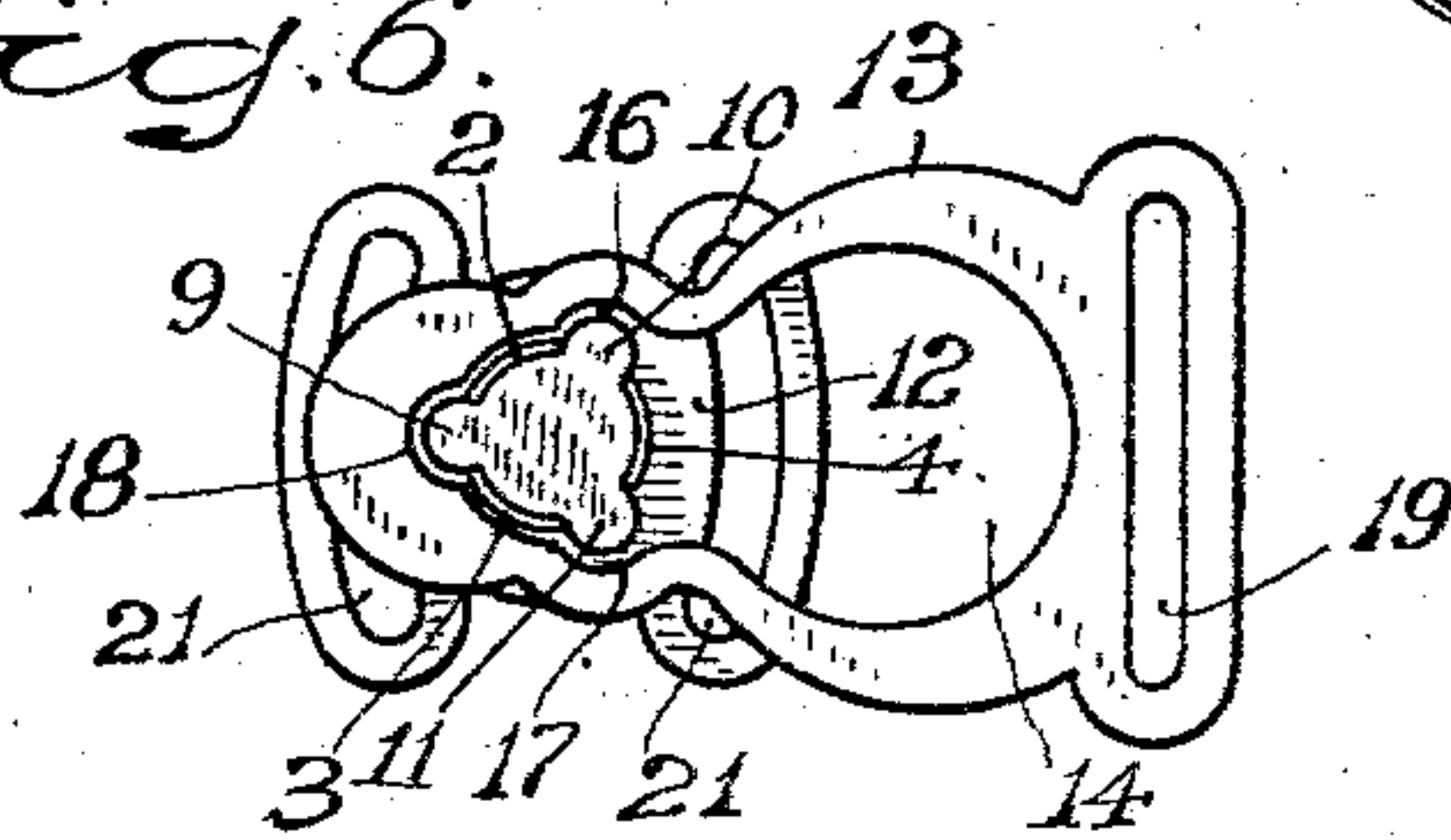


Fig. 6.



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GEORGE E. HAWES, OF BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT, ASSIGNOR TO DOWNER, HAWES & COMPANY, OF BRIDGEPORT, CONNECTICUT, A CORPORATION OF CONNECTICUT.

GARMENT-CLASP.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 730,534, dated June 9, 1903.

Application filed January 17, 1903. Serial No. 139,444. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, GEORGE E. HAWES, a citizen of the United States, residing at Bridgeport, in the county of Fairfield and State of Connecticut, have invented certain new and useful Improvements in Garment-Clasps; and I do hereby declare the following to be a full, clear, and exact description of the invention, such as will enable others skilled in the art to which it appertains to make and use the same.

My invention relates to certain improvements in garment-clasps, and has for its object to provide a simple and economical device of this description which will present a maximum grasping area and which will maintain a firm hold upon the garment to be clasped; and with these ends in view my invention consists of certain details of construction and combination of parts, such as will be hereinafter fully set forth and then specifically be designated by the claims.

In the accompanying drawings, which form a part of this application, Figure 1 is a perspective view of my improved clasp; Fig. 2, a detail side elevation of the button element of my clasp; Fig. 3, a section at the line *x x* of Fig. 2; Fig. 4, a detail bottom view of said button element; Fig. 5, a detail perspective view of the button, rubber, and button-base elements of my improved clasp; and Fig. 6, a plan view illustrating the relative position of the members of my improved clasp with the head of the button element removed.

Similar numbers of reference denote like parts in the several figures of the drawings.

Heretofore clasps of this description have been provided with a short section of rubber disposed loosely around the shank of the button element; but when the button thus equipped was drawn down toward the lower end of the loop element of the clasp the garment would be held between the sides of the opening in the loop and the shank of the button, with the rubber intervening between said loop and button, and thus a sawing action would be produced against the rubber, the latter being backed up by the rigid shank of the button.

My improvement contemplates a garment-clasp in which the rubber shall be so disposed that the shank of the button simply holds the

rubber in place while there is no pressure whatever brought to bear against said shank during the manipulations of my clasp.

1 is the button-head, which has secured thereto in any suitable manner a shank that is composed of three circular-disposed depending portions 2 3 4, which are separated by spaces 5 6 7.

8 is a block of rubber or other suitable material, whose main body portion is adapted to snugly fit within the hollow shank formed by the parts 2 3 4, and extending radially from said body portion are nubs 9 10 11. These nubs are triangularly disposed, the nub 9, which I will hereinafter refer to as the "bottom" nub, projecting through the space 5 of the shank, which I will hereinafter refer to as the "bottom" space, while the nubs 10 11, which I will hereinafter refer to as the "lateral" nubs, project through the spaces 6 7 of the shank, hereinafter referred to as the "lateral" spaces.

The parts composing the shank are riveted or otherwise secured to the bottom or base plate 12, which latter is of any approved shape and construction, and it will therefore be readily understood that the rubber element of my improved button extends beyond the shank thereof at three points that are triangularly disposed, one of said points being at the lower side of said shank, while the other two points are at opposite sides of said shank, near the upper portion thereof.

13 is the loop element of my improved clasp, said loop having an opening therein large at the upper end, as seen at 14, so as to readily admit of the passage there-through of the head of the button, the walls of said opening 14 being contracted toward the lower end, so as to afford a narrow gateway 15, while beyond said gateway recesses 16 17 are formed, the side walls of said recesses being separated by a distance about equal to the distance between the nubs 10 11 of the rubber block 8, while the distance between the side walls of the gateway 15 is less than the distance between said nubs. Below these recesses the opening in the loop is contracted, as shown at 18, although this is immaterial. In other words, the loop of my improved clasp has an opening therein, the up-

per portion of which is large enough to admit the head of the button element, said opening being contracted near its middle portion and below the latter enlarged into diametrically opposite recesses and at its lowermost end contracted.

The upper end of the loop 13 is provided with a slot 19, through which any suitable webbing 20 may be secured, while the base-plate 12 on opposite sides of the button is provided with slots 21, through which a suitable webbing 22 may be secured, all after the manner of garment-clasps commonly in use.

In utilizing my improved clasp the garment is placed over the head 1 and the latter thrust through the large opening 14, and the button is then forced downwardly until the nubs 10 11 strike against the side walls of the contracted portion at the lower end of the opening 14, the continued downwardly thrusting of said button causing these nubs to yield, owing to their resiliency, so as to pass beyond said contracted portion and expand within the recesses 16 17. When these lateral nubs 10 11 have thus passed beyond said gateway and expanded within said recesses, the lowermost nub 9 will have fitted snugly within the lower contracted end 18 of the opening in the loop, and it will thus be seen that there can be no accidental upward rise of said button and consequent release of the garment, owing to the fact that the narrow gateway 15 will oppose said movement.

While the lowermost nub 9 does to some degree assist in clasping the garment, nevertheless if such nub were entirely omitted the efficiency of the clasp would not be seriously impaired, owing to the fact that the diametrically opposite nubs 10 11 will hold the garment without the slightest danger of any accidental displacement. Moreover, these nubs 10 11, fitting, as they do, snugly within the recesses 16 17, afford a gripping area materially in excess of the gripping area presented by the usual form of loop and rubber-covered shank.

From the foregoing it will be clear that there can be no contact with or pressure brought to bear directly against the metal shank of the button and also that the rubber element is immovable, and therefore cannot roll or become cut by any sawing action of the loop.

Having thus described my invention, what I claim as new, and desire to secure by Letters Patent, is—

1. A garment-clasp comprising a button element having a head, a hollow shank provided with triangularly-disposed lateral openings, a base to which said shank is secured, a rubber body contained within said shank and

having protuberances which project through said openings beyond the shank, and a loop element provided with an opening therein having enlarged, contracted and recessed portions, substantially as set forth.

2. A garment-clasp comprising a button element having a head, a hollow shank provided with lateral openings, a base to which said shank is secured, and a rubber block contained within said shank and having protuberances which project in triangular disposition beyond said shank, and a loop having therein an opening which at its upper end is large to permit the passage therethrough of the head of said button, said opening at the lower end of said enlarged portion being contracted and thence expanded into recessed portions and terminating at its lower end in a contracted portion, substantially as set forth.

3. In a garment-clasp, the combination of a button element consisting of a head, a shank and a base, rubber nubs triangularly disposed and extending beyond the circumference of said shank, one of said nubs projecting at the lower face of said shank while the other two nubs extend in opposite directions at the upper part of the sides of said shank, with a loop element having an opening therein enlarged at its upper end to receive the head of said button and contracted below said enlarged portion whereby the walls of said contracted part are separated by a distance less than the distance between the outer extremities of said lateral nubs, said opening below said contracted portion being expanded into recesses whose side walls are separated by a distance about equal to the distance between the outer surfaces of said nubs, while the lower end of said opening is contracted whereby a snug seat is afforded for the lowermost of said nubs, substantially as set forth.

4. In a garment-clasp, comprising loop and button elements, the combination of the button element having extending circumferentially beyond its shank triangularly-disposed rubber nubs, one of said nubs being at the lower part of said shank while the other two are near the upper end of said shank and on opposite sides thereof, with the loop element having therein an opening large at the top and small at the bottom, said opening having a contracted portion and an expanded portion intermediate of said top and bottom portions, substantially as set forth.

In testimony whereof I affix my signature in presence of two witnesses.

GEORGE E. HAWES.

Witnesses:

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M. T. LONGDEN.